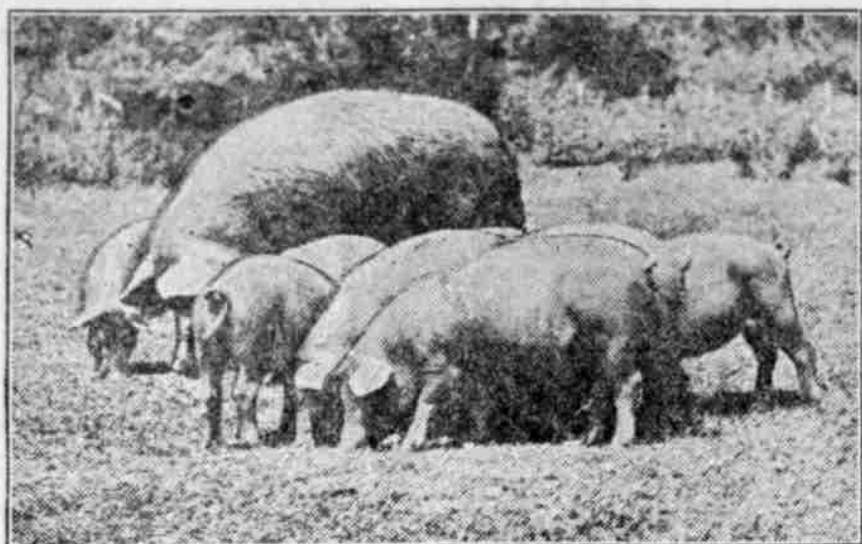


EXTENSIVE EPIDEMIC OF HOG CHOLERA



A Healthy Bunch of Hogs.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The country is passing through the third serious epidemic of hog cholera of the past 30 years, according to the department of agriculture. The first period reached its climax in 1886 to 1887, when the loss amounted to about 134 per 1,000 head in one year. The second outbreak developed in 1894, and reached its climax in 1896 to 1897, when losses amounted to 144 per 1,000 head. The present extensive epidemic of hog cholera began to be serious in 1911; during the ten prior years the loss of swine ranged from 45 to 58 per 1,000 per year; in 1911 it jumped to 89, then to 110 in 1912, and to 119 last year, about 90 per cent of which may be attributed to cholera. It has thoroughly ravaged the heart of the hog-producing belt during the year just past. In the state of Iowa alone, losses amounted to nearly 1,800,000 swine, over a fourth of the entire number in the state. In many counties over half were lost, and in some townships over nine-tenths.

The losses of swine from disease are estimated by the department at 119 to every 1,000 hogs in the country, which exceeds last year's heavy loss of 110 per 1,000, and the average yearly loss in the preceding ten years of 54.9 per 1,000. Probably more than 90 per cent of the loss was from cholera. The percentage of loss applied to the estimated number of hogs on January 1 indicates a total loss of 7,005,000 head, which, at \$10.40, the value per head on January 1, indicates a loss of \$73,000,000. The average weight of a hog on the farm is about 150 pounds, therefore more than one billion pounds of hog meat were destroyed by disease, mostly cholera.

A billion pounds live weight produce nearly 800,000,000 pounds of dressed meat and lard. This amount would be sufficient to furnish every family of the United States (average four and a half persons) about 40 pounds. If there had been no such loss, probably increasing scarcity of meat would have been largely prevented.

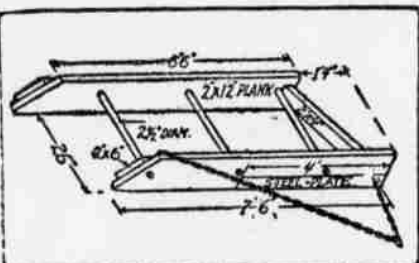
The losses of swine from disease are usually heaviest in southern states and lightest in northern states. Estimates of losses have been kept for 30 years. The states showing the heaviest average yearly loss in these 30 years are, in their order, Arkansas, 119 per 1,000; Louisiana, 110; Florida, 109; the states showing the lightest losses are Maine, 19; Wyoming, 19; New Hampshire, 22. In Georgia the average is 94, in Alabama and Mississippi, each 92; in Texas, 68; whereas, in New York the average is 26, in Michigan, 34; in Minnesota, 46; in North Dakota, 31, and in Washington and Oregon, 26.

The epidemic has abated somewhat in the past year, as compared with the preceding year, in most southern states, but has increased greatly in the northern states. Thus, in Florida the loss has decreased from 170 per 1,000 in 1912 to 150 in 1913; in Georgia, from 165 to 90; in Alabama, from 110 to 100; in Mississippi, from 154 to 104; in Kentucky, from 95 to 90; in Missouri, from 175 to 90; whereas in Iowa the loss has increased from 160 per 1,000 in 1912 to 255 per 1,000 in 1913; in Minnesota, from 55 to 214; in Nebraska, from 119 to 175; in South Dakota, from 38 to 230, and in North Dakota, from 20 to 75. The tendency of the three epidemics appears to have been, in a general way, to move as a wave from South and East to North and West.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD DRAG

Detailed Instructions and Illustration Given for Making Implement to Improve Highways.

Select a good yellow pine, ash, or oak plank 2 inches thick, 12 inches wide, and 14 feet long. Cut this in two at an angle so that one edge of each piece is 7 feet and 6 inches long and the other edge is 6 feet and 6 inches long. Spike to the back and along the center of each of these planks a 2 by 6-inch piece, which reinforces the plank. Bore the holes for the cross stakes about 26 inches apart and 4 inches from each end with a



Plan of Road Drag.

2 1/2-inch auger, using care to keep the auger perpendicular to the plank. The 2 by 4-inch brace at the front end should start from the middle of the rear plank and drop to the bottom part of the front plank. The blade, which is generally made of stock cutter steel, should be given the proper cutting slope by placing a wedge-shaped strip between it and the plank. One end of the chain is fastened to a cross stake and the other passes through a hole in the plank and is held in position by a pin.

EYESORE ON ORCHARD TREES

Silken Webs Filled With Caterpillars Should Be Cut Out and Burned With Kerosene.

(By E. VAN BENTHUYSEN.)

There is no greater eyesore in country surroundings than the silken webs filled with dark-colored, white-haired caterpillars which abound on the trees of orchard and lawn.

Those should not be confounded with the tent caterpillar, which abounds in early summer. They are the larvae of a moth which flies at night, and varies in color from pure white to white thickly studded with brown spots.

The moths emerge in May or June from pupae which have passed the winter under loose soil and rubbish at the foot of the tree.

The eggs are placed in clusters near the tips of the branches. On hatching, the process of web-building and eating begins, and soon a large cluster may be formed.

Cut the nests and burn with kerosene, or spray with arsenites, using sufficient force to penetrate the web.

OBSTIPATION IN THE HORSE

Many Thousands of Dollars Lost to Farmers From Cause That Might Be Easily Prevented.

(By GEORGE H. GLOVER, Colorado Agricultural College.)

Judging by the number of cases of fatal obstruction to the bowels in horses that come to the notice of the veterinarians of the Colorado Agricultural college, there must be many thousands of dollars lost to farmers every year from this cause. And this is a condition that might easily be prevented.

In the winter time the roughage is dry and succulence must be provided. A horse with good teeth and fed alfalfa, timothy, bluestem, or other well-cured hays, combined with grain and plenty of water, will seldom be affected with impacted intestines, but a ration of straw, or bleached alfalfa stems picked up in the fields, combined with a low vitality, cold, poor teeth, and only snow or otherwise a limited amount of water, will furnish conditions which make fatal obstruction of the bowels possible.

The poorer the feed the more an animal must eat, and a ration of straw or poor quality of hay, does not furnish sufficient nutriment to make it possible for a horse to eat enough to support life. He eats inordinate quantities of this highly indigestible food which produces distention, atony and finally paralysis of the bowels.

Most of these cases cannot be treated successfully but prevention is easy. After all, it does not pay to keep animals unless one knows how and is willing to care for them from the day they are born.

SPRAY TO PREVENT DISEASE

Rot of Tomatoes May Be Avoided If Bordeaux Is Used—Disorder Encouraged by Weather.

(By E. VAN BENTHUYSEN.)

This disease often attacks plants that are not sprayed. It is first noticeable as small, black or brown spots on the leaves and stems of the plants, occurring first on the lower and older leaves; but with favorable weather it spreads rapidly till the plant is defoliated, and the spots on the stems have coalesced into irregular, blackish patches.

If a piece of bark with these spots be examined under a high-power microscope, innumerable, small, crescent-shaped bodies may be seen.

These are the fruiting spores of the fungus. Spray with bordeaux.

Boosting Dairy Business.

The dairyman should grow as many acres of alfalfa as he raises acres of corn for his silo, and boost this dairy business above drudgery by having a system that will bring things around on time.

POULTRY



GOOSE IS PROFITABLE FOWL

Subject of Golden Egg Fable Really Brings Money to Farmer's Pocket—Needs Little Shelter.

There is no fowl that can be raised on the farm more profitably than the goose, says N. L. Harris, superintendent of the poultry farm of the Kansas State Agricultural college. The goose needs little shelter, and no more care and attention than any of the other fowls of the barnyard, he argues. Some of its other advantages are that it is seldom subject to disease, it is house and mite proof, and hawks rarely prey upon young goslings.

The eggs may be hatched under hens, but the goslings should be taken away immediately. They can be brooded for a short time in the outside brooders, but after that they should be confined in the house at night.

Geese live to great age, some having been known to live for fifty years. The males may be used for six or seven years, and the females are profitable up to ten or twelve years of age. The young geese will lay twelve to eighteen eggs a season, and the old ones can be counted on for from twenty to thirty.

"The Emden and Toulouse geese are the best for Kansas," continued Mr. Harris. "A large number of them are raised in the southeastern part of the state."

"It is an erroneous idea to think that you need a pond or stream in order to raise geese," Mr. Harris declares. "With the exception of plenty to drink, the geese need no water."

HOUSES FOR THE BEGINNERS

Small Coop Illustrated Which Can Be Attached to Outbuilding—Scratching Shed Also Shown.

The two illustrations given show designs for poultry houses that should appeal to all beginners. Fig. 1 gives a small house that will do well for the city lot, says Farm Journal. It can be attached to the barn or any outbuilding. This is the style of house used by Tom Purple, Binghamton, N. Y., who sends the drawing and the following letter:

"I am sending you by this mail something that I feel sure will be to

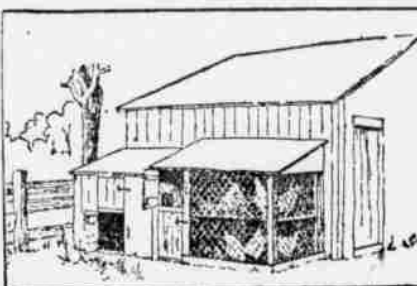


Fig. 1—A Two-Story Coop.

the point for the 'small acre' man who wants to keep a few chickens of two breeds. I had perfect success with my chicks this year, and being determined to keep them, had to invent something that would cover only so many square feet on my father-in-law's lot, as there were no accommodations at home for them. The two-story affair is something new around here, and by using the straw and leaves for furnishing the exercise necessary for good development, I have had rare results—exceptional results. I feed in small feeding boxes in the morning and scatter some grain through trash to make them work. The same at the other feedings."

Fig. 2 shows a hen house to which a scratching shed is attached. The house is about a foot above the

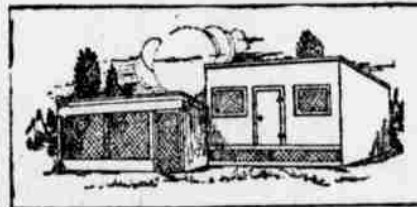


Fig. 2—A Scratching-Shed Attachment.

ground, and has a board floor. By means of a small opening the fowls can get to the scratching shed, which is protected in front by wire netting. The floor of the scratching shed is earth. This style of house can be built any size desired.

Remedy for Worms.

By eating decayed vegetables, etc., fowls introduce into their bodies the eggs of worms. If it is found that fowls are suffering from worms, give a small dose of turpentine made into bread pills. If they haven't worms, this will not hurt them. Give a dose of oil a few hours after giving the turpentine.

Water for Hens.

Be very sure the hens have plenty of water. Hens in full laying require more than twice as much water every day as do the sitting hens, and, of course, as the heat of the days increase this fact, too, makes the need of fresh water in quantities necessary.

MYSTERY OF SPHINX

French Savant Says It Once Wore Head Ornament.

M. Hippolyte-Boussac Declares It His Belief That Foundations for Top Piece Formerly Rested in Cavities in Crown.

Paris.—Since the discovery more than a year ago of deep cavities in the crown of the Sphinx of Gizeh, Egyptologists have debated much as to the purpose which caused their construction. The suggestion that the great vacant spaces were intended for galleries or chambers has been disputed and the question has assumed almost the importance of a second riddle of the Sphinx.

Now comes P. Hippolyte-Boussac, formerly a member of the Oriental Institute of Cairo and a distinguished architect, with what may be the solution. In a learned article in Illustration he argues that the cavities contained the foundations for the head ornaments which, he believed, adorned the Sphinx.

"Every god of Egypt wore on his head a symbolic ornament, intended to designate his character," writes M.



The Sphinx Looked Like This Some 3,500 Years Ago, Says a French Egyptologist.

Hippolyte-Boussac. "On the head of Ra, or Ammon Ra, were a solitary disk and two tall feathers. Representations of the head of Isis frequently show a disk between two heifer horns, surmounted by the inscription As, representing her name. Now-Re-Toum's head was decked with a full-grown lotus, from which emerged symbolic feathers."

"Thoth, the god of sciences, letters and arts, was often shown with the head of an ibis, having a wig with lapets, surmounted by a disk and a crescent. Examples might be multiplied; similar characteristics appeared among the other gods in the pantheons of the Pharaohs. With very few exceptions, these attributes are not confined to one divinity exclusively. They serve as emblems marking the roles played by each god. The Pharaohs themselves made use of them in the performance of certain religious ceremonies."

"The Sphinx was the image of the god Harmakhis—the sun at its setting—a divinity essentially funeral in aspect. This is explained his place in the necropolis at Memphis. As with the other Egyptian gods, his head was surmounted by a symbolic ornament, usually the Atew, or disk of the sun, which was worn also by Osiris, the god of the dead. This ornament consisted of a white crown with two ostrich plumes, a solitary disk and two rams' horns."

"It is known that the great Sphinx of Gizeh was cut out of a high cliff on the edge of the Libyan desert. The ancients were unable to fashion the head ornament while sculpturing the figure out of the mass of rock, but added it later. This process is sometimes followed in the case even of statues. It was necessary to dig deeply into the head in order to insure the stability of the lofty ornament which surmounted it. This was the purpose of the cavity which has been discovered in the head of this Sphinx."

"As the ornament was not monolithic, but was formed of superimposed strata, it must have been comparatively frail. It was threatened by the lightning, the rain, the sandstorms and winds of the desert. It did not figure at all on the bas-reliefs of the Sphinx in the time of Thotmes IV, in the eighteenth dynasty, which was shown crouching on a lofty pedestal. Doubtless in this epoch—about 1600 B. C.—the ornament already had been destroyed. The Sphinx was then more than 2,500 years old—older than the Parthenon of our day—and in this long stretch of centuries the symbolic accessory might well have fallen victim to the ravages of the elements."

"In the temple of Djebel-Barkal the disks, placed much lower and apparently being less frail, which surmounted the heads of the other sphinxes, also have disappeared, although they had been carved out of the same block. When, in the sixteenth century before our era, Thotmes IV restored the great Sphinx, doubtless he considered it inadvisable to replace an ornament which had not proved durable. But the lapets, of which no trace remains today existed then, in part, at least. They are indicated in a bas-relief of the eighteenth dynasty."

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To allay itching and irritation of the scalp, prevent dry, thin and falling hair, remove crusts, scales and dandruff, and promote the growth and beauty of the hair, the following special treatment is most effective, agreeable and economical. On retiring, comb the hair out straight all around, then begin at the side and make a parting, gently rubbing Cuticura Ointment into the parting with a bit of soft flannel held over the end of the finger. Anoint additional partings about half an inch apart until the whole scalp has been treated, the purpose being to get the Cuticura Ointment on the scalp skin rather than on the hair. It is well to place a light covering over the hair to protect the pillow from possible stain. The next morning, shampoo with Cuticura Soap and hot water. Shampoos alone may be used as often as agreeable, but once or twice a month is generally sufficient for this special treatment for women's hair.

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